

HOUSE BILL 570

J1, J2

1lr1890

By: **Delegates Nathan–Pulliam, Costa, Glenn, Griffith, Jones, Kipke, Mizeur, Stein, Tarrant, V. Turner, and Walker**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2011
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Care Providers – Training – Eating Disorders**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain health care providers to complete certain course
4 work or training relating to eating disorders; establishing certain requirements
5 for the course work or training; requiring certain health care providers to make
6 a certain attestation to certain licensing boards at a certain time; providing that
7 a health care provider is exempt from this Act under certain circumstances;
8 defining a certain term; and generally relating to the training of health care
9 providers about eating disorders.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 20–1401 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 14. Health Care
13 Provider Training on Eating Disorders”
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, In the United States, 24 million people suffer from anorexia
18 nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorder; and

19 WHEREAS, Anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness, and
20 eating disorders lead to severe, chronic physical health conditions; and

21 WHEREAS, Eating disorders are often not recognized and diagnosed until the
22 physical health of an individual is compromised and the illness is entrenched, at which
23 point irreversible damage already may have occurred; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Studies have demonstrated a link between the early intervention
2 for eating disorders and treatment outcome; and

3 WHEREAS, Early recognition of eating disorders is cost effective, as it may
4 prevent the development of full-syndrome disorders and chronic conditions; and

5 WHEREAS, Binge eating disorder is the most prevalent eating disorder, which
6 often leads to obesity; and

7 WHEREAS, Obesity in the United States costs \$147 billion each year in direct
8 medical costs, which is approximately 9% of all medical spending; now, therefore,

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

11 **Article – Health – General**

12 **SUBTITLE 14. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TRAINING ON EATING DISORDERS.**

13 **20-1401.**

14 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE, “HEALTH CARE PROVIDER” MEANS A LICENSED
15 PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, DENTIST, NURSE, SOCIAL WORKER, OR
16 PSYCHOLOGIST.

17 (B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, A
18 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SHALL COMPLETE ONLINE COURSE WORK OR
19 TRAINING ON THE EARLY RECOGNITION OF AND INTERVENTION FOR EATING
20 DISORDERS.

21 (C) THE COURSE WORK OR TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION
22 SHALL BE:

23 (1) APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND

24 (2) CONSISTENT WITH ANY STANDARDS OR BEST PRACTICES
25 ESTABLISHED BY THE ACADEMY FOR EATING DISORDERS.

26 (D) THE ONLINE COURSE WORK OR TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER THIS
27 SECTION SHALL BE AT LEAST 1 HOUR IN LENGTH AND SHALL INCLUDE
28 INFORMATION REGARDING PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL
29 INDICATORS OF EATING DISORDERS.

30 (E) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SHALL ATTEST TO THE APPROPRIATE
31 LICENSING BOARD ON RENEWAL OF LICENSURE THAT THE HEALTH CARE

1 PROVIDER HAS COMPLETED THE COURSE WORK OR TRAINING REQUIRED
2 UNDER THIS SECTION.

3 (F) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS
4 OF THIS SECTION IF THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER CAN DEMONSTRATE, TO THE
5 SATISFACTION OF THE APPROPRIATE LICENSING BOARD, THAT:

6 (1) THE NATURE OF THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S PRACTICE
7 DOES NOT REQUIRE EDUCATION ABOUT EATING DISORDERS;

8 (2) THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER HAS COMPLETED COURSE
9 WORK OR TRAINING THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO THE COURSE WORK OR TRAINING
10 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION; OR

11 (3) A GOOD CAUSE EXISTS THAT PREVENTS THE HEALTH CARE
12 PROVIDER FROM COMPLETING THE COURSE WORK OR TRAINING REQUIRED
13 UNDER THIS SECTION.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2011.